

together with a single male *M. straminea*, on a sheet amongst a reed-bed. Two of the ? *obsoleta* were particularly well marked examples, and these two, together with a third less well marked, both possessed a quite distinct discal spot on the underside of each wing. The other three did not. An examination of the specimens of *M. obsoleta* in the collection of the British Entomological and Natural History Society revealed several which possessed such markings, some moderately distinct, and some less so. An examination the following day of the specimens in the A. W. Mera Collection at the Passmore Edwards Museum revealed that one moth in a series of 11 possessed these discal spots, the remainder being immaculate. Spurred on by memories of *pyramidea/berbera*, I examined the genitalia of the Mera specimen, and all six East Ham specimens. All were male, and all were *M. obsoleta*.

Clearly then, the possession of discal spots on the underwings does not serve to distinguish *M. straminea* from *M. obsoleta* although it is fair to say that I have not yet encountered a female *M. obsoleta* with these markings. — C. W. PLANT, Assistant Curator, Natural Sciences (Biology), Passmore Edwards Museum, Romford Road, Stratford, E15 4LZ.

BEMBEZIA CHRYSIDIFORMIS ESP.: A REJOINER. — With great respect to Mr. Jacobs (*Ent. Rec.*, 95: 169), I feel I must point out that when writing of the Fiery Clearwing my actual words in question were “. . . long thought to be practically confined to Folkestone Warren”. This, I submit, is hardly the same thing as a *statement* (Mr. Jacobs' term) that the species *is* practically so confined. My choice of words was deliberately cautious, since I was aware that it had occurred at other localities on the south coast, but apparently only casually (see however Chalmers-Hunt, *Ent. Rec.*, 95: 170). Nor was it meant to exclude the possibility that other colonies exist or existed undiscovered — A. A. ALLEN.

THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY IN 1983, SEEN FLYING IN FROM THE SEA. — On the 17th September 1983 at around 1pm, I saw a single Monarch (*Danaus plexippus* L.) at Burry Port Power Station on the Burry Inlet, Carmarthenshire. It flew in from a S. W. direction over the sea. My only previous sighting of this butterfly was in 1981 when aboard the M. V. Scillonian bound for the Scilly Isles, just off Land's End — it was flying over the sea at about 30ft. in an easterly direction. The date was 1st October 1981. — CLIVE JONES, 23 Cwm Terrace, Furnace, Llanelli, Dyfed SA15 4ELL.

NORTHWARD SPREAD OF TETHEA OCULARIS L. SSP. OCTOGESIMEA HBN.: FIGURE OF EIGHTY. — The first appearance of a male of this species, at my M.V. light here, on July 12th 1983, makes me wonder if this is the most northerly record to-date. Dr. Neville Birkett informs me that it appears to be the first for Westmorland, V.C.69. In the 1950s and 1960s, the late C. R. Haxby and myself, operated M.V. light traps consistently, in many parts of Yorkshire, and never saw the species. There is no mention of it in G. W. Porritt's "List of

Yorkshire Lepidoptera", but it is recorded in the latest "Yorkshire List of Lepidoptera" published by the Yorkshire Naturalist' Union (p. 7) as being well established in the extreme south of the County. Mr. S. M. Jackson, the Y.N.U. lepidoptera recorder, assures me that it is now widespread in Yorkshire.

There are several records of the species in Lancashire in recent years, the late Arthur Watson regularly used to get it in the late 1970s at his bedroom light, outside which was a big Black Poplar tree, where he was sure it was breeding. This was at St. Annes-on-Sea. Mr. J. Whitehouse of Dover Farm, Hoghton, nr. Preston has taken it at his M.V. trap, on three occasions, in the last two years, there also is Black Poplar. The nearest to Westmörland was one recorded by the Rev. J. J. Broadhurst in 1976, at his light at Bolton-le-sands, Morecambe Bay, just inside the Lancashire border. So perhaps it is no surprise at its occurrence here, especially as there is now a large Poplar (*Populus nigra variagata*) in a nearby garden. — J. BRIGGS, 5 Deepdale Close, Slackhead, Beetham, Cumbria LA77AY.

CORRECTION TO THE "CHECK LIST OF BREEDING BRITISH MACROLEPIDOPTERA". — Having used the Christmas break to catch up on back-reading, I noted that the second part of the above reported in *Ent. Rec.* 95: 157-160 omits *Electrophaes corylata* Thunb. from the list, the inclusion of which would result in the Geometridae totalling 281 species and an overall total of 726 species. — N. F. HEAL, Fosters, Detling Hill, Nr. Maidstone, Kent.

ACRONICTA RUMICIS L. (KNOTGRASS) FEEDING ON COTONEASTER BULLATUS. — The listed larval pabula of *Acrionicta rumicis* are various low growing plants such as plantains, docks and sorrels, as well as hawthorn, willow and bramble. It may be of interest therefore to note the discovery of a nearly full-fed *A. rumicis* larva on *Cotoneaster bullatus* var. *floribundus* in my garden at East Ham, Essex on 22nd September, 1983. — C. W. PLANT, Assistant Curator, Natural Sciences (Biology). Passmore Edwards Museum, Romford Road, Stratford, E15 4LZ.

ORTHONAMA OBSTIPATA F. (THE GEM) IN S.E. LONDON, 1983. — It appears that I should put on record the capture of two specimens of this immigrant here during June: a female on the 4th at the wall-lamp that I have already had occasion to mention more than once; and the remarkably dissimilar male at m.v. light on the 17th. Bretherton and Chalmers-Hunt (*Ent. Rec.*, 95: 145) show that there was a considerable invasion of the species in 1982, and include in their list a West Kent record (Orpington). — A. A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

ADOXOPHYES ORANA F.v.R. (LEP.: TORTRICIDAE) IN HAMPSHIRE. — Single specimens appeared in my m.v. trap here on the nights of 19th, 22nd and 23rd August 1983, the first record of this species in Hampshire. — Dr. J. R. LANGMAID, "Wilverley", 1 Dorrita Close, Southsea, Hants., PO4 ONY.